

Congressman Farr's offices in Washington, D.C. and on the Central Coast will remain open in the event of a government shutdown. For assistance, Rep. Farr's staff can be contacted in D.C. by calling (202) 225-2861, and in the district at (831) 424-2229.

A government shutdown occurs when Congress fails to pass legislation to fund the Federal Government. In the event of a government shutdown, "non-essential" employees would be furloughed and their coinciding services would not be delivered. However, essential services, such as the armed forces, border protection, air traffic controllers, and police and fire departments would continue to operate.

Based on impacts experienced during the 1995 government shutdown, the following is a list of frequently asked questions on how a government shutdown could impact you and your family.

### **What Services Will Be Stopped?**

A government shutdown could delay the processing of Social Security claims and veterans' benefits, as well as slowdown the delivery and processing of passports and visas. In addition, closures of federal facilities would include national parks, museums and monuments across the nation. The shutdown would also delay bankruptcy cases and the processing of home loans, small business loans and import and export licenses.

As a result of most non-essential government employees being furloughed from their jobs, other areas of the economy may experience delays.

### **Will I Still Get My Social Security Benefits?**

Yes, Social Security beneficiaries should expect to receive their check. Though checks will continue to be mailed, a number of Social Security employees will be furloughed, which means new Social Security claims may not be processed.

### **Am I Still Going to Get My Tax Refund?**

Yes. Americans can still expect to receive their Federal Income Tax Return, but delays could occur.

### **Will Veteran Benefits Continue?**

While VA hospitals will remain open, the last government shutdown saw many veterans' benefits cut or reduced.

### **Will Unemployment Benefits Be Affected?**

Depending on the length of the shutdown, the federal funds that help states pay the costs of their unemployment programs could run out. This would require the state to step in and advance the money to keep their programs running. If not, benefits would be reduced or stopped.□

### **Will U.S. Postal Service stop delivering mail?**

**No.** The U.S. Postal Service is a self-funding agency and will continue to work as normal.

### **What Services Will Continue?**

Services that are deemed essential for the safety of human life and the protection of property would continue to function during a government shutdown. This includes the armed forces, border patrol, police, fire and federal workers who provide medical care on the job. The Postal Service and the Federal Reserve, which are both self-funded, will also continue to operate.

To find more information on the government shutdown, please visit this helpful guide, [Shutdown of the Federal Government: Causes, Processes, and Effects](#) compiled by the non-partisan Congressional Research Service.